



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)
Child Care Subsidy Monthly Report

The following report reflects information contained in the Child Care Data System (CCDS) administered by the DESE Office of Childhood. Unless otherwise noted, data consists of un-duplicated counts of children and families participating in the subsidy program for the identified month.
Database as of June 8, 2026.

May 2026

SECTION 1: CHILD CARE HOUSEHOLD APPLICATIONS					
*The status reflects the action that was taken during the month indicated.					
		May	Change From Month Prior		Change From 2 Months Prior
Submitted		3,112	4.0%		0.7%
Approved		1,840	-9.8%		-33.5%
Rejected		363	7.1%		-55.5%
Pending	15 Days or Less	521			
	More Than 15 Days	459			
Total Pending		980			

SECTION 2: NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS AND CHILDREN APPROVED FOR SUBSIDY					
		May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	Change From Month Prior
Approved Households	Income	17,360	17,296	17,179	0.4%
	Protective Services	4,352	4,171	3,891	4.3%
Total		21,712	21,467	21,070	1.1%
Approved Children	Income	27,714	28,406	29,428	-2.4%
	Protective Services	7,023	6,924	7,024	1.4%
Total		34,737	35,330	36,452	-1.6%

SECTION 3: CHILD CARE SUBSIDY PAYMENTS					
		May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	Change From Month Prior
Children Served	Income	22,913	23,605	23,028	-2.9%
	Protective Services	5,170	5,237	5,069	-1.3%
Total		28,076	28,834	28,087	-2.6%
Payments	Income	\$22,611,328	\$22,449,029	\$20,915,675	0.7%
	Protective Services	\$6,625,510	\$6,591,844	\$6,153,762	0.5%
Total		\$29,236,839	\$29,040,873	\$27,069,437	0.7%
Average Payment Per Child		\$1,041	\$1,007	\$964	3.4%

SECTION 4: TRANSITIONAL CHILD CARE SUMMARY									
	Level 1 (151-185% FPL)			Level 2 (186-215% FPL)			Level 3 (216-242% FPL)		
	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026
Approved Households	788	705	632	288	262	230	136	122	102
Children Served	1,238	1,204	1,151	408	395	368	179	168	148
Payments	\$1,112,584.76	\$1,041,919.41	\$954,214.37	\$367,015.64	\$334,055.46	\$309,355.37	\$153,251.95	\$138,023.87	\$114,310.73
Average Payment per Household	\$1,412	\$1,478	\$1,510	\$1,274	\$1,275	\$1,345	\$1,127	\$1,131	\$1,121
Average Child Expenditure	\$899	\$865	\$829	\$900	\$846	\$841	\$856	\$822	\$772

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Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)
Child Care Subsidy Monthly Report

May 2026

SECTION 5: CHILDREN SERVED BY AGE		
	Children Served May 2026	Payments May 2026
Under Age 1	1,265	\$2,295,743
AGE 1	3,232	\$6,099,248
AGE 2	4,108	\$4,998,251
AGE 3	4,527	\$4,626,201
AGE 4	4,299	\$4,265,059
AGE 5	3,357	\$2,814,420
AGE 6	1,763	\$1,039,070
AGE 7	1,425	\$802,267
AGE 8	1,199	\$650,233
AGE 9	980	\$552,860
AGE 10	809	\$442,328
AGE 11	574	\$324,122
AGE 12	346	\$197,172
AGE 13	153	\$94,876
Age 14 and Over	39	\$34,987
Total	28,076	\$29,236,839

SECTION 6: APPLICATIONS BY STATUS AND REGION								
May 2026								
*The status reflects the action that was taken during the month indicated.								
Applications Received		Applications Approved	Applications Rejected	Percent Rejected	Total Resolved	15 Days or Less	More Than 15 Days	Percent Over 15 Days
Cape Girardeau	160	49	24	14.0%	73	48	47	49.5%
Columbia	91	31	12	12.9%	43	22	29	56.9%
Jefferson City	106	37	12	10.3%	49	25	40	61.5%
Macon	65	24	9	13.4%	33	22	12	35.3%
Not Selected	1,584	1,392	145	9.0%	1,537	50	6	10.7%
Raytown	354	99	56	15.1%	155	107	108	50.2%
Springfield	184	73	24	12.1%	97	52	48	48.0%
St. Louis	568	135	81	14.0%	216	195	169	46.4%
Total	3,112	1,840	363	11.3%	2,203	521	459	46.8%

SECTION 7: REASON FOR CARE FOR APPROVED HOUSEHOLDS BY REGION								
May 2026								
Region	Education	Employment	Homeless	Incapacitated Parent	Job Search	Protective Services	Special Need	Training
Cape Girardeau	185	1,588	48	12	336	688	20	16
Columbia	96	850	51	7	233	318	23	21
Jefferson City	104	934	33	8	221	453	22	8
Macon	45	370	9	3	80	198	11	2
Not Selected	1,291	8,029	346	61	2,245	2,165	154	205
Raytown	516	2,907	300	27	1,101	898	72	129
Springfield	239	1,587	64	11	390	759	40	14
St. Louis	1,002	5,738	469	60	1,793	1,020	125	146
Total	2,181	13,879	965	130	4,133	4,363	314	334



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)
Child Care Subsidy Monthly Report

May 2026

SECTION 8: REASON FOR CARE FOR APPROVED HOUSEHOLDS AND CHILDREN						
	Households			Children		
	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026
Education	2,181	2,142	2,108	3,661	3,702	3,834
Employment	13,879	13,639	13,373	24,632	25,111	25,951
Homeless	965	967	981	1,266	1,319	1,368
Incapacitated Parent	130	133	132	228	238	249
Job Search	4,133	4,143	4,149	4,565	4,715	4,841
Protective Services	4,363	4,182	3,902	7,042	6,943	7,047
Special Need	314	307	302	497	508	532
Training	334	326	320	578	606	623
Total	21,709	21,464	21,067	34,712	35,294	36,414

SECTION 9: DEMOGRAPHICS OF APPROVED CHILDREN BY RACE			
	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026
African American (Black)	16,286	16,679	17,169
American/Alaskan Native	274	283	300
Asian	108	111	115
Caucasian (White)	13,098	13,218	13,653
Multi-Racial	3,769	3,820	3,952
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	44	45	48
Other	480	496	531
Prefer not to answer	680	667	683
Unknown	0	1	0
Total	34,712	35,294	36,414
May 2026April 2026March 2026			

SECTION 10: DEMOGRAPHICS OF APPROVED CHILDREN BY ETHNICITY

	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026
Hispanic	5.6%	5.7%	5.8%
Non-Hispanic	91.2%	91.2%	91.1%
Prefer not to answer	3.3%	3.2%	3.2%
Total	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)
Child Care Subsidy Monthly Report

May 2026

SECTION 11: DEMOGRAPHICS OF APPROVED HOUSEHOLDS BY INCOME										May 2026
*excludes Protective Services households										
Household Size		Approved Households		% of Total Households Last Month along Table (Down)			Average Household Monthly Income			
2		5,929		34.2%			\$1,108			
3		6,040		34.8%			\$1,444			
4		4,067		23.4%			\$1,663			
5		2,115		12.2%			\$1,892			
6		826		4.8%			\$1,999			
7 or More		494		2.8%			\$2,171			
Total		17,360		100.0%			\$1,444			

SECTION 12: CHILDREN SERVED AND AVERAGE PAYMENT PER CHILD BY FACILITY										
Provider Type	Provider Facility Type	May 2026			April 2026			March 2026		
		Children Served	Payments	Average Payments per ..	Children Served	Payments	Average Payments per ..	Children Served	Payments	Average Payments per ..
Exempt	Exempt Program	649	\$367,460.10	\$566	815	\$458,739.54	\$563	707	\$378,011.83	\$535
	Six or Fewer	1,236	\$753,283.48	\$609	1,219	\$791,290.80	\$649	1,157	\$723,365.53	\$625
License Exempt	Religious Organization/ Nursery School	1,748	\$1,447,725.93	\$828	1,848	\$1,469,099.76	\$795	1,780	\$1,326,726.87	\$745
Licensed	Licensed Child Care Center	23,159	\$25,445,700.77	\$1,099	23,650	\$25,114,443.70	\$1,062	23,129	\$23,482,805.13	\$1,015
	Licensed Family Child Care Home	931	\$845,314.56	\$908	940	\$844,069.88	\$898	943	\$802,979.78	\$852
	Licensed Group Child Care Home	500	\$377,353.68	\$755	497	\$362,104.32	\$729	479	\$355,548.05	\$742
Total		28,076	\$29,236,838.52	\$1,041	28,834	\$29,039,748.00	\$1,007	28,087	\$27,069,437.19	\$964

SECTION 13: PAID AND CONTRACTED PROVIDERS										
*Includes contracted providers and providers in the process of renewing their contract.										
Contracted Providers			May 2026		April 2026		March 2026			
	Exempt	Exempt Program	194		188		187			
		Six or Fewer	363		368		379			
	Licensed	Licensed Child Care Center	1,199		1,185		1,193			
		Licensed Family Child Care Home	182		182		183			
		Licensed Group Child Care Home	55		56		56			
	Licensed Exempt	Religious Organization/Nursery School	102		104		104			
Total			2,095		2,083		2,102			

SECTION 14: CHILDREN RECEIVING OTHER STATE ASSISTANCE					
	May 2026	April 2026	March 2026	Change From Month Prior	Change From 2 Months Prior
Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP)	2,572	2,524	2,490	1.9%	3.3%
Low Income Housing	2,396	2,404	2,336	-0.3%	2.6%
Medicaid	17,722	18,202	17,721	-2.6%	0.0%
Food Stamps (SNAP)	16,549	17,101	16,736	-3.2%	-1.1%
Temporary Assistance (TANF)	669	695	664	-3.7%	0.8%
Total	20,653	21,275	20,767	-2.9%	-0.5%

SECTION 15: CHILDREN ON WAITLIST BY AGE AND PRIORITY CATEGORY

Child Age	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
Under Age 1	42	73	373	191
AGE 1	50	73	343	166
AGE 2	56	59	339	178
AGE 3	71	41	326	123
AGE 4	66	37	293	120
AGE 5	58	29	223	90
AGE 6	49	31	185	106
AGE 7	50	17	175	67
AGE 8	44	18	151	64
AGE 9	36	9	129	58
AGE 10	34	10	96	46
AGE 11	34	12	86	49
AGE 12	20	4	64	40
AGE 13	13		14	7
Age 14 and Over	12		3	4
Grand Total	635	413	2,800	1,309

SECTION 16: CHILDREN ON WAITLIST BY REGION AND PRIORITY CATEGORY

Region	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4
Cape Girardeau	65	17	299	160
Columbia	48	11	175	76
Jefferson City	21	17	176	103
Macon	16	1	104	45
Not Selected	8	5	8	25
Raytown	177	115	640	298
Springfield	60	31	344	170
St. Louis	240	216	1,054	432
Grand Total	635	413	2,800	1,309

SECTION 17: APPLICATIONS ON WAITLIST

Waitlist Priority Category	Applications on Waitlist
Category 1	275
Category 2	261
Category 3	1,542
Category 4	752
Grand Total	2,830

Waitlist Priority Category Explanation:
Category 1: Children with special needs, as defined in 5 CSR 25-200.050, that meet one or more of the following criteria: A child receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI), a child receiving services through the Missouri Department of Mental Health, or a child with a physical or mental disability or delay, verified in writing by a medical professional or mental health professional
Category 2: Children who are experiencing homelessness
Category 3: Families with income below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level
Category 4: Families with income above 100% of the Federal Poverty Level that may be eligible

Further information can be found at: <https://dese.mo.gov/childhood/child-care-subsidy-waitlist>